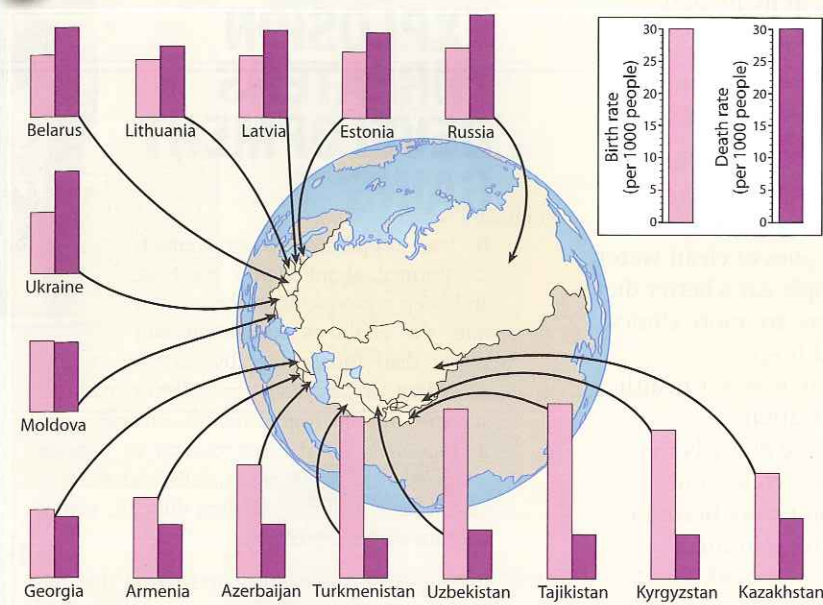


What is happening to Russia's population?

Source A shows Russia and the other countries which, up to 1991, used to form the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Russia's population is likely to decline from 143 million in 2007 to 111 million in 2050. The main causes of this are a high death rate, low birth rate and a low level of **immigration**. Alcohol-related deaths in Russia are very high and life expectancy is low. Russian women, who are highly educated, do not want large numbers of children. Immigration into Russia is low, and many **emigrants** are moving away from Russia, particularly to Western Europe to look for a better lifestyle.

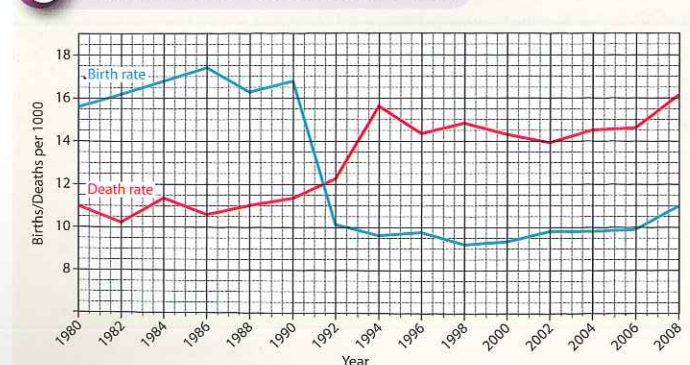
A Birth and death rates in the former USSR



B Russia's population



C Russian birth and death rates



Task 1

Study Source A.

- Name the country shown on the map with the highest rate of natural population growth.
- Work out the population decline of Russia per 1000 people.
- Name **three** other countries shown on the map that are experiencing population decline.

Task 2

Study Source C.

- Describe how birth rates and death rates changed in Russia between 1980 and 2008.
- Identify the years when the total population:
 - increased
 - remained the same
 - decreased.

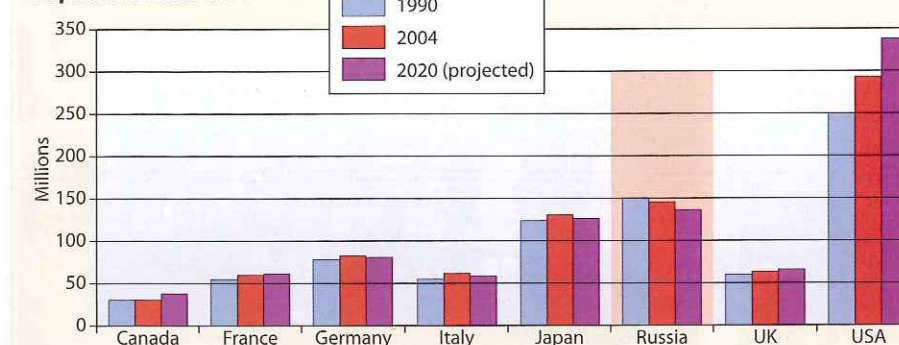
Task 3

Match the following beginnings and endings of sentences to complete **three** sentences which explain why Russia's population is now declining.

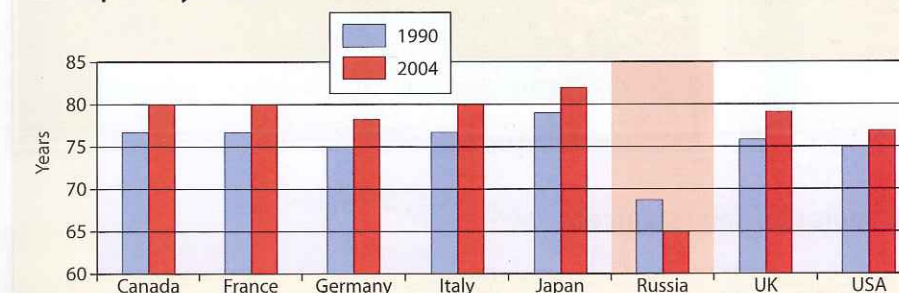
- Death rates are high ... because Russian women prefer to have a career rather than large numbers of children.
- Birth rates are low ... as more people move out of Russia than into the country.
- Population is lost through migration ... because of high levels of alcoholism, heart disease and accidents.

D Population graphs for the G8 countries

Population since 1990

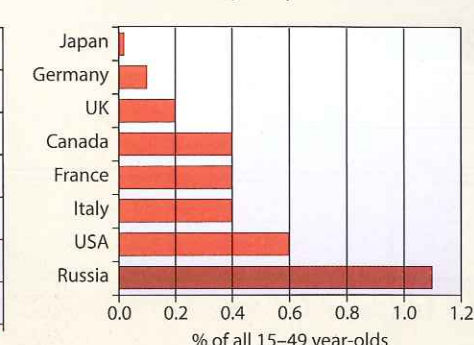


Life expectancy at birth

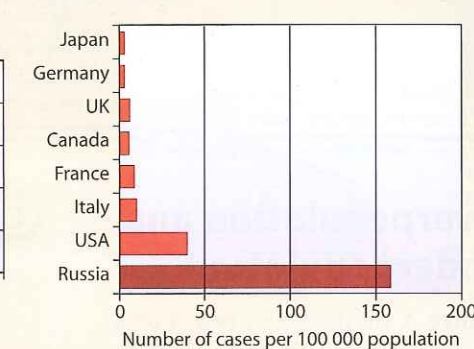


Russia is one of the G8 countries – of the world's most powerful nations.

Adult HIV infection (2007)



TB infection (2007)



Task 4

Study Sources B and D.

- Use Source D to identify the main differences between Russia and the other G8 countries. Use figures and examples in your answer.
- Use Source B to suggest reasons for these differences.

Task 5

Study Source E.

A Russian couple are trying to decide whether to have a second child. Write a conversation between them which includes information about the advantages and problems of having another child.

E Cash for more babies!

A second baby? Russia's mothers aren't persuaded

19 May 2006

President Vladimir Putin last week promised to spend some of the country's oil profits on efforts to solve the population problem. He ordered parliament to more than double monthly child support payments to 1500 roubles (about US\$55) and added that women who choose to have a second baby will receive 250,000 roubles (US\$9200); a very large amount in a country where average monthly incomes are close to US\$330.

On Monday, young women at the Family Planning Youth Centre in Moscow said they liked the sound of more money, but suggested that Mr Putin has no idea about their lives. 'A child is not an easy project, and in this world a woman is expected to get an education, find a job, and make a career,' says Svetlana Romanicheva, a student who says she won't consider having a baby for at least five years.

Others say Putin is right. 'Russian women typically have one child ... but many of my patients would like a second if they felt they had enough support,' says Galina Dedova, a doctor at Happy Families, a private Moscow clinic. 'Most of my patients count their roubles ... If they could get more money, some might have more children.'

Sample case study question

For a country that you have studied, explain why it has a high rate of natural population growth.